

IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1. This sheet, which includes Fig. 1, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 1.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 8-14 are currently pending. The specification, Figure 1, and Claim 10 are amended. Support for the amendments to the specification, Figure 1, and Claim 10 is self-evident from the specification, Figure 1, and Claim 10 themselves. No new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Figure 1 was objected to as requiring a legend such as --PRIOR ART--; the specification was objected to as requiring section headings; Claim 10 was objected to for minor informalities; and Claims 8, 9 and 11-14 were allowed.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of Claims 8, 9, and 11-14.

Regarding the objection to Figure 1, Figure 1 is amended to include a legend --Background Art--. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the objection to the drawings is overcome.

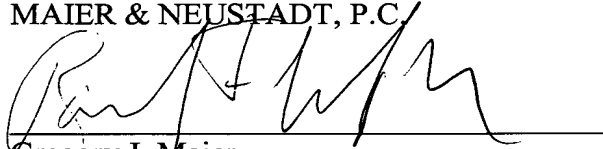
Regarding the objection to the specification, headings have been added to the various sections of the specification. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the objection to the specification is overcome.

Regarding the objection to Claim 10, Claim 10 is amended to rewrite "A crucible for an induction furnace" as "An induction furnace." Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that amended Claim 10 is in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, in view of the present amendment and in light of the allowance of Claims 8, 9, and 11-14, no further issues are believed to be outstanding, and the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregory J. Maier', is written over a horizontal line.

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